

1 locating an available television or radio programming storage space based  
2 on said step of storing a requirement signal; and

3 storing television or radio programming based on said step of locating an  
4 available television or radio storage space.

5 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said requirement signal designates  
6 television or radio programming required at a future time, said method further  
7 comprising the step of identifying television or radio programming.

8 5. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of identifying  
9 information which is not required.

10 6. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of comparing  
11 information stored at one or more of said television or radio programming storage  
12 station and said automatic control unit to said requirement signal.

13 7. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:  
14 inputting at least some portion of a television or radio signal to a  
15 processor; and  
16 processing said inputted portion to locate said available television or radio  
17 programming storage space.

18 8. A method for storing television or radio programming at a  
19 television or radio programming storage station, said storage station having a storage  
20 device capable of storing television or radio programming, and an automatic control  
21 unit for controlling said storage device to store information, comprising the steps of:

22 (1) receiving said television or radio programming to be transmitted;

23 (2) receiving an instruct signal which is effective to: